

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /030 R

DRAFTED BY EB/ORF/FSE:DHICKEY:MEP

APPROVED BY EB/ORF/FSE-LAWRENCE R. RAICHT

L/EB - GROSEN

EUR/RPE - ADSENS

EB/ORF/FSE - RMARTIN

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P 052315Z MAR 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY OSLO PRIORITY

INFO USMISSION OECD PARIS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 054734

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:ENRG

SUBJECT: IEA: NORWAY'S ADHERENCE TO LONG-TERM COOPERATION
PROGRAM

REF: A) OSLO 953, B) STOCKHOLM 989, C) STATE 39026

1. DEPARTMENT PLEASED WITH MORE POSITIVE OUTLOOK FOR
NORWEGIAN ADHERENCE TO IEA LONG TERM COOPERATION PROGRAM
AS EXPRESSED BY FOREIGN MINISTER FRYDENLUND IN REFTEL A.
HOWEVER, EMBASSY SHOULD CONTINUE TO PRESS NORWEGIAN
AUTHORITIES TO ADOPT PROGRAM AT MARCH 16 GOVERNING BOARD
MEETING. OTHER IEA COUNTRIES UNDOUBTEDLY FEEL AS WE DO
THAT THE WEEKS WHICH HAVE PASSED SINCE GB DECISION PROVIDE
SUFFICIENT TIME FOR NORWAY TO REACH A DECISION. OTHER
THAN NORWAY, THE ONLY MEMBER COUNTRY WHICH HAS NOT YET
FORMALLY ADOPTED THE LONG-TERM PROGRAM IS THE UNITED
KINGDOM. UK HAS ACCEPTED THE PROGRAM "AD REFERENDUM"
AND WE HAVE BEEN ASSURED THAT FORMAL ACCEPTANCE WILL BE
FORTHCOMING SHORTLY.

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2. THE FOLLOWING IS PROVIDED FOR EMBASSY'S USE IN

FURTHER DEMARCHES WITH NORWEGIAN AUTHORITIES (CORRESPONDING TO PARAGRAPH 9 OF REFTEL A):

3. READOUT OF FRYDENLUND/DAVIGNON CONVERSATION NOT YET AVAILABLE HERE. BOSWORTH, DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF FUELS AND ENERGY, WILL SEE DAVIGNON ON CURRENT EUROPEAN TRIP TO PARIS AND BRUSSELS AND PLANS TO ENCOURAGE HIM TO CONTINUE PRESSURE ON NORWAY.

4. SWEDEN IS EXPLORING POSSIBILITY OF IMPOSING A TARIFF OR LEVY ON OIL IMPORTS TO MEET MSP REQUIREMENT AND ANTICIPATES INTRODUCTION OF A BILL IN PARLIAMENT THIS SPRING TO OBTAIN NECESSARY AUTHORITY(SEE REF B).THIS SHOWS POSITIVE ATTITUDE OF THE GOS TOWARD THE MSP AGREEMENT. JAPANESE CABINET FORMALLY ACCEPTED LONG-TERM PROGRAM, INCLUDING MSP, ON FEBRUARY 17. MEASURES THEY MAY CHOOSE TO IMPLEMENT MSP NOT YET KNOWN BUT OUR ASSESSMENT IS THAT THE JAPANESE WILL PROBABLY USE ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDELINES RATHER THAN A CONSUMPTION TAX.

5. FOR EIGHT EC MEMBERS, IEA HAS BECOME A FOCAL POINT FOR POLICY COORDINATION NOT ONLY WITH NON EC MEMBERS BUT ALSO AMONG THEMSELVES. HAVING COMMITTED THEMSELVES TO IEA PROGRAM, THE BURDEN OF ASSURING THAT EC POLICY PERMITS THEM TO COMPLY WITH IEA OBLIGATIONS NOW RESTS WITH THE EC EIGHT PARTICULARLY WITH REGARD TO MSP IMPLEMENTATION. HOWEVER, WE MUST WORK TO MAINTAIN MOMENTUM IN THE IEA TO INSURE THAT EC COMMITMENTS IN THIS REGARD ARE NOT ERODED BY A PREOCCUPATION WITH DEVELOPING THEIR INTERNAL ENERGY POLICY.

6. FRANCE HAS ACCEPTED IN PRINCIPLE THE EMERGENCY PROGRAM AND THE MSP IN RETURN FOR UK ACCEPTANCE OF FRENCH PROPOSALS REGARDING THE DIALOGUE. FRANCE WILL TRY TO OBTAIN AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE FROM OTHER EC COUNTRIES FOR ITS FORMAL ENDORSEMENT OF THESE COMMITMENTS IN THE EC, (E.G. ACCESS TO NORTH SEA OIL AND GAS.) HOWEVER, FRANCE HAS A STRONG INTEREST IN OBTAINING A COMMON EC ENERGY POLICY OVER WHICH IT CAN EXERT SOME INFLUENCE. FOR THIS REASON WE BELIEVE THAT A COMMON

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EC ENERGY POLICY WILL BE ADOPTED AND WILL BE COMPATIBLE IN ALL ITS MAJOR ELEMENTS WITH THE IEA PROGRAM.

7. RE EC RESERVATIONS ON LT PROGRAM EC COUNTRIES ASKED ONLY THAT THEY BE ALLOWED TO MEET IEA OBLIGATIONS THROUGH COMMUNITY MEASURES (E.G. AN MSP POLICY). THIS SECTION, INCLUDED IN THE GOVERNING BOARD MINUTES, IS WORDED AS FOLLOWS "EC COUNTRIES DECLARED THAT THEY

RESERVE THE RIGHT TO FULFILL AND EXECUTE THE PROVISIONS
IN THE PROGRAM THROUGH COMMUNITY MEASURES. TO THE
EXTENT THAT THE PROGRAM GIVES THE CHOICE OF IMPLEMENTING

ITS PROVISIONS THROUGH MEASURES WHICH DO NOT FALL WITHIN
THE COMPETENCE OF THE MEMBER STATES OF THE EUROPEAN
COMMUNITIES, BUT WITHIN THE COMPETENCE OF THE
COMMUNITIES, THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THOSE MEASURES CAN
ONLY BE CARRIED OUT BY DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE
COMMUNITIES." KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ENERGY, POLICIES, CUSTOMS DUTIES, MEETINGS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION, IMPORT CONTROLS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE054734
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: DHICKEY:MEP
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760085-0430
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760388/aaaaczuy.tel
Line Count: 125
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EB
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 OSLO 953, 76 STOCKHOLM 989, 76 STATE 39026
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31 MAR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <31 MAR 2004 by MartinML>; APPROVED <29 JUL 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: IEA: NORWAY'S ADHERENCE TO LONG-TERM COOPERATION PROGRAM
TAGS: ENRG, NO, IEA
To: OSLO
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006